54.
4412 (3) Romney Marsh LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1948

TO THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ROMNEY MARSH.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors:-

The Area of the District is 31,031 acres.

The Resident Population was 4,053.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year 1948, according to the Rate Books was 1,535.

The Rateable Value was £22,424

The sum represented by a 1d rate was £85.

VITAL STATISTICS

		Males.	Females.	Total.
LIVE BIRTHS:-	Legitimate . . .	40	35	75
	Illegitimate . .	2	5	7
		42	40	82

This gives a Birth Rate of 20.21 per 1000 of the estimated resident population.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales was :- 17.9

Birth Rates for the past five years:-

	Romney Marsh	England & Wales
1944	20.32	17.60
1945	15.35	16.10
1946	18.44	19.10
1947	16.84	20.50
1948	20.21	17.90
Average	18.23	18.24

There were 2 still Births.

Deaths:-	Males	Females	Total
	25	21	46

This gives a Death Rate of 11.10 per 1000 of the estimated population.
The Death Rate for England and Wales was:- 10.8
Death Rate for the last five years:-

	Romney Marsh	England & Wales
1944	14.85	11.60
1945	12.13	11.40
1946	13.63	11.50
1947	12.82	12.00
1948	11.10	10.80
Average	12.51	11.46

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:- NIL

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	11
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	NIL
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	NIL
Deaths from Tuberculosis	NIL

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year:-

Whooping Cough	1
Scarlet Fever	8
Measles	17
Infective Hepatitis	NIL
Diphtheria	NIL
Pneumonia	2
Encephalitis	1
Lethargica	1

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

R.A.H. SIMPSON.

Date. September 15th: 1949.

ANNUAL REPORT OF BUILDING SURVEYOR & SANITARY INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my first Annual Report for 1948.

From the under-mentioned data and statistics, some idea of what has been carried out by this Department can be gathered.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER SUPPLY

The Water Supply in this area is by:-

(a) The Littlestone & District Water Company. Parishes of Dymchurch & St. Mary's.

(b) The Mid-Kent Water Co. Remaining seven Parishes.

(c) Application has been made to the Ministry of Health for financial grants towards Capital Expenditure of Scheme.

2. SEWERS

The only existing Public Sewer in the Area is approximately 1 mile. This serves the Central portion of Dymchurch only.

Discussions have taken place with Kent County Sanitary Officer and the Consulting Engineer and this Council and details are in the course of preparation for the sewering of St. Mary's Bay and Dymchurch Coastal Belt

3. PUBLIC CLEANSING

Cesspools are emptied in Dymchurch and St. Mary's Bay free of charge. In other Parishes all cesspools are dealt with by the Rural District Council.

House Refuse is cleared from Dymchurch once a week; St. Mary's Bay once every two weeks.

With the coming into service of a new Refuse Lorry fortnightly collection of all House Refuse throughout the remainder of the Area has been undertaken.

4. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Premises Inspected	No. of Inspections.
Accumulation found	3
Animals Kept.	
(a) Piggeries	3
(b) Stables	4
(c) Fowls, pigeons, etc.	16
Complaints	
Total number investigated. (All premises)	138
Dairies	
Cowsheds	172
Dairies	29
Milk Shops	10
Disinfection	
Number of houses disinfected	10
Number of other buildings disinfected	...
Disinfestation	
Number of houses	3
Number of other premises	...
Drainage	
Number of drains found choked	53
-do- defective	21
-do- tested	69

Dwelling Houses	No. of Inspections
Number of Inspections re Repairs	41
Re-inspections	35
Number inspected re overcrowding	5
Number found dirty	6
Number found verminous	2
Infectious Diseases	
Visits re Scarlet Fever	10
" " Diphtheria	...
" " other diseases	5
Factories	
With mechanised power	...
Without " "	...
Bakehouses	23
Food Premises	
Butchers' Shops or Stalls	75
Preparation of Potted Meat etc.	26
Fruiterers	32
Fishmongers and Fried Fish Shops	29
Restaurants or Cafe Kitchens	68
Samples of Milk taken for Bacteriological Examination.	
Satisfactory	29
Unsatisfactory	1
Miscellaneous Visits	
Number of visits not otherwise classified	61
Building Byelaws	250
Shops Act	39
Tents, Vans, Sheds etc.	65

Water Supply

Samples of these two undertakings, The Mid-Kent Water Company & Littlestone & District Water Company have throughout the year been found Satisfactory.

5. Rodent Control

Inspections made.	192
Infestations dealt with January to December.	48
Estimated Mice killed.	131
Actual Mice bodies found.	40
Estimated Rats killed.	1437
Actual Rat bodies found.	306

6. Rural Housing Survey

The Council have completed their Rural Housing Survey by March 1948, briefly the result was as follows:-

Approxiamte number of houses to be surveyed		1434
Number of houses surveyed to March 1948		1434
Number of Houses placed in Category	1.	755
-do-	2.	251
-do-	3.	266
-do-	4.	103
-do-	5.	59

7. Council's Post War Housing.

The Council have a comprehensive Post War Housing Programme to house in particular Agricultural Workers. At the 31st December, 1948 the under-mentioned were completed and occupied:-

Swedish	16
Airey	16
Traditional Brick (3 bedroom type)	43
Total	75

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MILK SUPPLY

There are 3 T.T. herds and 2 Accredited in the Area. The Register contains in all 23 Producers and 9 Retail Distributors. The major Retail distribution is carried out by one private firm who has made necessary Structural alterations to accommodate the new Heat Treatment Plant which operated w.e.f. 1st January, 1949.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD

The following is a list of foodstuffs condemned as unfit for human consumption during 1948:-

Corned Beef	87¾ lbs.
Corned Mutton	114 lbs.
Carcase Beef	140 lbs.

ICE CREAM

Three Producers Licensed and samples taken - 10. which were found to be Satisfactory.

BUILDING LICENCES

Total of £66,790. numbering 294 licences, have been dealt with during the past year. This includes Cost of Works (War Damage Rebuilding) and New Houses by Private Enterprise.

PLANS

Number of plans submitted to this Council during the year was 139 of which 74 applications were dealt with under Town & Country Planning Act, 1947.

MORTUARY

With regard to the Council's Owned Mortuary the following cases were dealt with:-

Total Number of Cases.	5
Number on which Post Mortem have been carried out.	3

CAMPING SITES

Only three Licenced Camping Sites are now in the Area, reducing existing sites.

Of the three Licenced Camping Sites within the Council's area, increased Water Supply and Sanitary accommodation have been installed.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

T. Hop...

"Prescott"
New Romney

September, 1949.